

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2005-386-E - ORDER NO. 2007-178
MARCH 15, 2007

IN RE: Petition of the Office of Regulatory Staff to) ORDER ON
Establish Dockets to Consider Implementing) CONSIDERATION OF
the Requirements of Section 1252 (Smart) TIME-BASED
Metering) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005) METERING
) STANDARDS

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the requirement of this Commission, pursuant to Sections 111(d)(14), 112, and 115(b) of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, 46 U.S.C. §§ 111(d)(14), 112, and 115(b), as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, to conduct an investigation and make a determination whether or not it is appropriate to set new standards for electric utilities to provide and install time-based meters and communication devices for each of their customers which enable such customers to participate in time-based pricing rate schedules and other demand response programs

Under Section 112 of the revised Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, there are certain potentially applicable exemptions as to the time limitations regarding consideration of these standards. Further, as observed in other jurisdictions, there is an apparent conflict between the time limitations set out in Section 111(d)14(F) and Section 112(b)(4)(B).

Moreover, ninety-nine percent (99%) of South Carolina's customers of regulated electric utilities are presently covered by time-of-day rate programs pursuant to Section

111(d)(3) of the 1978 provisions of the Act, and the standards set forth in subparagraphs (a) and (c) of Sections 111(d)(14) are integrally related to the full consideration of Time-Based Metering and Communications presently being carried out by this Commission in this Docket. Therefore, we will address the standards proposed in 111(d)(14)(A) and (C) as part of this Commission's full consideration of the appropriateness of further Time-Based Metering Standards in the present docket, and we will make those determinations by the two-year deadline set by Section 112(b)(4)(B).

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:



C. Robert Moseley, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)